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Question Paper Code : 21239

B.E./B.Tech. DEGREE EXAMINATIONS, NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2023.

First Semester

Civil Engineering

HS 3151 – PROFESSIONAL ENGLISH – I

(Common to : All Branches (Except Marine Engineering)

(Regulations 2021)

Time : Three hours   Maximum : 100 marks

Answer ALL questions.

PART A — (10 × 2 = 20 marks)

1. Fill in the blanks with suitable tense forms: (4 × ½ = 2)

The engine ————— the heart of your car. It's a machine built to convert the heat from burning gas into the power that ————— (turn) the road wheels. The chain of reactions that ————— (achieve) this goal is set in motion by a spark that ignites a mixture of gasoline vapor and compressed air in a momentarily closed cylinder and burns rapidly. That is why the machine ————— (call) an internal combustion engine. When the mixture burns, it expands and provides energy to power the car.

2. In each of the following questions, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given expression: (4 × ½ = 2)

   (a)   A thing no longer in use
       (i)   *redundant*
       (ii)   *obsolete*
       (iii)   *sick*
       (iv)   *obnoxious*

   (b)   Something that cannot be imitated.
       (i)   *inimitable*
       (ii)   *inevitable*
       (iii)   *duplicity*
       (iv)   *inexplicable*

(c) Words written on the tomb of a person

   (i) *manuscript*

   (ii) *inscription*

   (iii) *epitaph*

   (iv) *engrave*

(d) One who is greedy for money

   (i) *avaricious*

   (ii) *spendthrift*

   (iii) *splendid*

   (iv) *cynic*

3. Choose the correct form of verb that agrees with the subject : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

   (a) Neither the monkeys nor the cat ———— (is/are) 'very' hungry.

   (b) Franklin, as well as his teacher, ———— (was/were) going on the field trip.

   (c) Everyone ———— (has/have) done his or her assigned work.

   (d) Each of the students ———— (is/are) responsible for doing his or her work.

4. Fill in the blanks with suitable Articles (a, an, or the) : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

Satellites are typically launched into orbit using a rocket. They are positioned at different heights and travel different tracks around ———— Earth at different speeds. Once in orbit, the Earth's gravitational pull keeps the satellite from following a path straight out into space. These devices usually have ———— antenna that lets them send and receive data. They also have a power source, typically ———— battery or solar power panels. Other equipment on a satellite depends on its purpose. They may have cameras, telescopes and sensors. The International Space Station is ———— complex satellite with living and working quarters for its inhabitants along with equipment for research.

5. Expand the following compound nouns : $(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

   (a) memory chip

   (b) credit card

   (c) metal detector

   (d) roof garden

2   21239

6. Fill in the blanks with the comparative forms of adjectives given in brackets:

$(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

    (a)   It's infinitely ————— (bad) than you suspect.

    (b)   It was ————— (large) the previous group.

    (c)   He was ————— (fortunate) than the others.

    (d)   Customs are often ————— (cruel) than laws.

7. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions :

$(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

Safety and performance ————— electric scooters remain top concerns for customers amid a spate of fire incidents ————— these vehicles recently, which has prompted consumers to hold back on their plans to purchase e-scooters, according to an online survey. Moreover, the percentage ————— people who were not convinced about the safety and performance of an electric scooter rose to 32% in August this year, compared with just 2% in the same month a year ago, as per the survey conducted ————— online platform Local Circles.

8. Fill in the blanks with the appropriate collocation from the given options:

$(2 \times 1 = 2)$

    (a)   Could you ————— (do/give/make) me a favour and post these letters on your way home?

    (b)   The company offers its employees free language training but not many people ————— (make/take/do) advantage of it.

9. Change the following statements into questions :

$(4 \times \frac{1}{2} = 2)$

    (a)   Joseph never cleans his motorcycle. (What)

    (b)   The cycle shop will be closed until next month. (How long)

    (c)   He can't meet Lucy today because she is very ill. (Why)

    (d)   Peter drove his car very fast. (How)

10. Combine the following sentences using the given cause and effect expressions :

$(2 \times 1 = 2)$

    (a)   Rubi rescheduled her meeting for directors and shareholders. There was a conflict in her calendar. (Because of)

    (b)   Esther scored low marks in the examination. She skipped too many lectures. (Because)

PART B — (5 × 16 = 80 marks)

11. Read the following passage and answer the questions below :

In ancient Greece athletic festivals were very important and had strong religious associations. The Olympian athletic festival, held every four years in honour of Zeus, eventually lost its local character, became first a national event, and then, after the rules against foreign competitors had been waived, international. No one knows exactly how far back the Olympian Games go, but some official records date from 776 B.C.

The Games took place in August on the plain by Mount Olympus. Many thousands of spectators gathered from all parts of Greece, but no married woman was admitted even as a spectator. Slaves, women and dishonest persons were not allowed to compete. The exact sequence of events is uncertain, but events included boys' gymnastics, horse-racing, field events such as discuss and javelin throwing, and the very important foot races. There was also boxing and wrestling and special tests of varied ability such as the pentathlon, the winner of which excelled in running, jumping, and javelin throwing and wrestling. The evening of the third day was devoted to sacrificial offering the heroes of the day, and the fourth day, that of the full moon, was set aside as a holy day.

On the sixth and last day, all the victors were crowned with holy garlands of wild olive from a sacred wood. So great was the honour that the winner of the foot race gave his name to the year of his victory, Although Olympic winners received no prize money, they were, in fact, richly rewarded by their state authorities. The public honour also made the strict discipline of the ten month training period worthwhile. In spite of the lengthy training, however runners were known to drop dead from strain at the winning post. How their results compared with modern standards, we unfortunately have no means of telling.

After an uninterrupted history of almost 1200 years. the Games were abolished in AD. 394, the Christian era, because of their pagan origin. It was over 1500 years before there was another such international athletics gathering. The Greek institution was revived in 1896 and the first small meeting took place in Athens. After the 1908 London Olympics, success was re-established and nations sent their best representatives. In times of peace, the Games have taken place ever since at four-yearly intervals. In Munich in 1972, competitors from more than 120 countries were watched by huge crowds.

Nowadays, the Games are held in different countries in turn. The host country provides vast facilities, including a stadium, swimming pools and living accommodation, but competing countries pay their own athletes' expenses. Athletic contests are still the main feature, but now many more sports are represented, the ancient pentathlon, for example, has been modified into a more comprehensive test, and the marathon races, initiated in 1896, are now a celebrated event.

4 21239

The Olympics start with the arrival in the stadium of a torch, lighted on Mount Olympus by the sun's rays. It is carried by a succession of runners to the stadium. The torch symbolizes the continuation of the ancient Greek athletic ideals, and it burns throughout the Games until the closing ceremony. The well-known Olympic flag, however, is a modern conception: the five interlocking rings symbolize the uniting all the five continents participating in the Games.
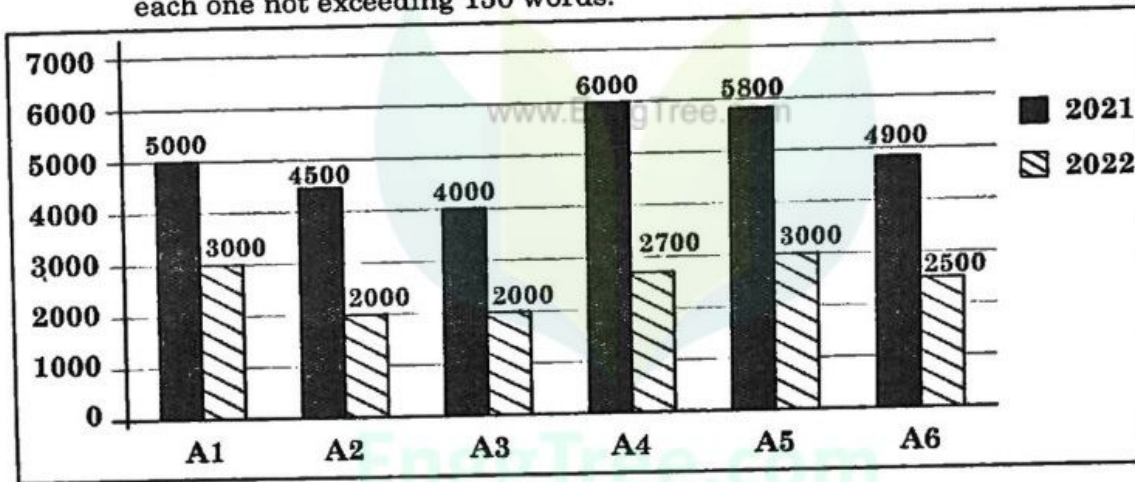
(a) Choose the right answer for the following questions: (5 × 1 = 5)

    (i) The first Olympic Games took place

        (1) in the seventh century A.D.

        (2) certainly before 700 B.C.

        (3) over three thousand years ago

        (4) a thousand years ago

    (ii) In the final stages of the ancient Olympic Games, any competitor had to be

        (1) greek

        (2) male

        (3) unmarried

        (4) neither a slave nor a foreigner

    (iii) The order of athletic events at the ancient Olympics

        (1) has not definitely been established

        (2) varied according to the full moon

        (3) was decided by Zeus, in whose honour the Games were held

        (4) was considered unimportant

    (iv) During the Games, on the evening before the moon was full,

        (1) heroes were sacrificed to Zeus

        (2) large sums of prize money were distributed to the heroes

        (3) all the victors were crowned with garlands

        (4) the heroes were honoured with sacrificial offerings

    (v) Competitors had to train

        (1) for four years

        (2) for ten months

        (3) until they collapsed

        (4) for periods determined by their state authorities

(b)   State whether the following statements are true or false :   (5 × 1 = 5)

(i)   Modern athletes' results cannot be compared with those of the ancient runners because the Greeks had no means of telling the time.

(ii)   The continuity of the Olympic Games has never been broken.

(iii)   Nowadays, the athletes' expenses are paid out of the national funds of competing nations.

(iv)   At the beginning of the Games in the host country, a torch is ignited by the Greek ambassador.

(v)   The modern Olympics compared with the ancient ones are too much concerned with international rivalry.

(c)   Choose the right meaning for the given words based on the passage :

   (6 × 1 = 6)

(i)   Waived (paragraph 1)

   (1)   accepted

   (2)   shaken

   (3)   abolished

   (4)   displayed

(ii)   Sacred (paragraph 3)

   (1)   picturesque

   (2)   of religious significance

   (3)   frightened

   (4)   carved with a knife

(iii)   Institution (paragraph 4)

   (1)   museum

   (2)   custom

   (3)   school

   (4)   building

(iv)   facilities (paragraph 5)

   (1)   opportunities

   (2)   building and equipment

   (3)   entertainments

   (4)   faculties

21239

      (v)   initiated (paragraph 5)

          (1)   run

          (2)   continued

          (3)   begun

          (4)   accepted into adulthood

      (vi) conception (paragraph 6)

          (1)   birth

          (2)   beginning

          (3)   idea

          (4)   instrument

12. (a)   The following bar chart shows the sale of mobile phones from six branches of Samsung company (A1, A2, A3, A4, A5, and A6) in 2021 and 2022. Describe the details given in the bar chart and give some suggestions to increase the sale of mobile phones. Write two paragraphs, each one not exceeding 150 words.   (16)

                                Or

      (b)   Write a product description for the Dorel outdoor wifi security camera given below not exceeding 200 words.   (16)

<div align="center">Dorel outdoor wifi security camera</div>

Brand	Dorel
Model Name	SPO 15
Item weight	1.5 kg
Product Dimensions	26 × 15 × 25 cm
Memory Slots Available	Supports upto 128 GB Micro SD Card
Compatible Devices	Android, iPhone, Window PC / Laptop
Additional Features	PTZ camera, Waterproof Outdoor camera

                           21239

Included Components	IP Camera, Adapter LAN Cable, Mounting Screws and Manual
Warranty Details	1 year warranty provided by the manufacture from date of purchase
Camera's 720p HD resolution	Full view of any corner
Built-in IR LEDs with ICR	Offer good night vision of viewing and recording in complete darkness upto 35 feet.
Other features	(i) Suitable for both outdoor and indoor environment
	(ii) Multi-share (Share with multiple users at the same time)
	(iii) Will send you alarm when some notion is detected
	(iv) Watch anytime, from anywhere in the world by connecting with the smartphone

13. (a) Write a set of eight instructions that need to be followed by passengers during their train journey. (16)

Or

(b) Imagine that you have arranged for a guest lecture in the seminar hall of your department. Write a set of eight instructions that need to be followed by students in the seminar hall while attending the lecture. (16)

14. (a) There are many tourist spots in Tamil Nadu which can be used as a source of revenue for the government. Write a set of eight recommendations to improve the tourism industry in Tamil Nadu. (16)

Or

(b) Forests provide us with shelter, livelihoods, water, food and fuel. Therefore it is essential to conserve the forest. Write a set of eight recommendations to protect the forest in India. (16)

15. (a) Write an essay explaining the importance of clean air and water and describe the measures to keep water and air clean and safe in about 300 words. (16)

Or

(b) Obesity has become a global issue nowadays. Recently, the number has exceeded 39 per cent of individuals worldwide being overweight and 13 per cent being obese. Write an essay describing the reasons for obesity and suggest solutions to this problem in less than 300 words. (16)

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